

# NEWS and GOSSIP OF WASHINGTON



## Where Infant Death Rate Dropped 50 Per Cent

WASHINGTON.—Miss Julia C. Lathrop of Chicago, head of the children's bureau of the department of labor, has completed a report on baby-saving in New Zealand which was transmitted the other day to Secretary of Labor Wilson. New Zealand was selected for this special study because its infant mortality rate is the lowest of any country in the world. This creditable showing, Miss Lathrop says, is due to the activity of the Society for the Health of Women and Children, whose methods, she says, could be followed with success in this country. In a letter of transmittal, Miss Lathrop says:

"The infant mortality rate of New Zealand has been for some time recognized as the lowest of any country in the world, and it is stated that recent further reductions are due in large measure to the activity of the society."

"As an example of its value, the consul general says that work of the society has reduced infant mortality in Dunedin, a residential city of about 60,000 inhabitants, 50 per cent during five years, from 1907 to 1912."

"Because of the absence of adequate birth and death registers in the United States, the infant death rate of this country as a whole is unknown, but some states tend to show that it is at least twice the rate in New Zealand, which the register general of that country reported in 1912 to be 51 per 1,000."

"New Zealand, like certain of our states, is a young and vigorous country with a scattered population and with no large cities, and there is every reason to believe that similar volunteer effort in this country would produce similar results."

"In view of the marked and growing interest in the preservation of infant health in the smaller cities and rural communities of the United States, I believe that the account of the methods of the New Zealand society is especially timely."

"It will be seen that public interest is strongly enlisted in its efforts. Seventy volunteer committees in as many districts maintain the educational and nursing work in connection with the central office, and the government itself assists in various ways."

## Taken for Stealing; She Has \$1,700 in Her Purse

ON entering one of the big downtown department stores the other day a little, gray-haired woman, wan and wrinkled and poorly dressed, and fully seventy-five years old, stood and gazed about her as if startled at all the magnificence she beheld. She took a few steps forward and then stopped, apparently uncertain which direction to take. She attracted the attention of Detective Messer, and he watched her.

Hesitatingly she approached a counter on which were displayed fancy high-priced shirtwaists. She fingered the finery lovingly, and every now and then glanced around to see if anyone was looking. Messer smiled sympathetically. He was beginning to wish he could afford to turn philanthropic, when suddenly his sympathy was shocked.

Quickly glancing to the right and left, the aged woman fished a \$20 shirtwaist from the counter, hastily tucked it beneath her shawl and started for the door. In an instant the officer had his hand on her shoulder and was drawing her aside.

"Put that waist back and then beat it," said he.

Then, to the detective's astonishment, the woman produced a purse and revealed \$1,700. She drew out the bills and pressed them upon the officer.

"Here—take it all," she pleaded. "Take everything, only please let me go."

After being regularly booked at the first precinct station and learning that she would be released on \$20 bail, her tears ceased to flow, and instead of pleading she became indignant and commanding. Fishing out a \$20 bill she tossed it on the sergeant's desk and then walked away. She forfeited her bail in police court.

## Osages Not Bothered by the High Cost of Living

JUDGE JOHN E. SHORT of Oklahoma, who was in Washington recently, gave a little interview about the Osage Indians, which was of great interest. He prefaced the interview with remarks that the commissioner of Indian affairs, Cato Sells, is a godfather to the Indians. He then said of the Osages:

"The high cost of living does not bother the Osages, for money is piling in to them so fast they are unable to spend their interest and royalties, to say nothing of the millions which the government is holding in trust for them. I have just been advised by wire from Pawhuska that in a sale of 12,000 acres for gas and oil leasing purposes only the Osages received a bonus in excess of \$500,000, and in addition to this amount these Indians receive a royalty of one-eighth of all the oil produced and a cash price for each gas well. When it is considered that the oil production in the Osage country amounts to 1,600,000 barrels a month and the Indians receive about 15 cents on each barrel produced, this one item alone amounts to \$150,000 a month, and, in addition to this, each of the 2,000 members of the tribe has \$5,000 on deposit with the government for a rainy day. As the average income for each family is in excess of \$2,500 a year, there is no immediate danger of the trust funds being disturbed. In addition to all this, the tribe has 1,500,000 acres of land, considerable of which has already been allotted."

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## Spread Out His Coat and the Wind Did the Rest

SENATOR WALSH of Montana, possessor of the finest horsehoe mustache in the senate, is a person of singular pertinacity of purpose. Should it occur to him that he had to move a red-hot stove he would move it, his friends say, even if it burned both hands off. The verb "to quit" is not found in his lexicon.

A number of years ago Senator Walsh and C. P. Connolly, now a magazine writer, were young lawyers together in Montana. They determined with some others, to make a bicycle tour through the Yellowstone National park. All went well until, on the return journey to Livingston, Senator Walsh's sprocket chain was broken beyond repair. Now, the Yellowstone valley in its approach to the town of Livingston, is noted as one of the windiest places on earth. Jim Bridger, who put the Yellowstone on the map, asserted in his time that he had seen the wind there blow the hair off a dog, and none disputed the statement. No one, in fact, disputed any of Jim's assertions, he being a handy man with a gun.

Under these circumstances, Senator Walsh announced that he didn't need the sprocket chain at all to make distance. He said that all he had to do was to sit in the seat, spread his coat and let the wind do the rest.

"And do you know," said Mr. Connolly in telling the story, "after he had ten times he still believed in his theory. We had to bind and gag him into a wagon before he would consent to proceed in any other way."

Just the Thing.  
Prospective Buyer.

## GENERAL VILLA AND HIS GASOLINE CHARGER



General Villa, commander of the constitutionalist army in northern Mexico, has abandoned the horse for the motorcycle. He is here seen mounting his rather unromantic charger, which he rode during the operations against Torreón.

## RISE AND FALL OF ROYAL FAMILIES OF CHIHUAHUA

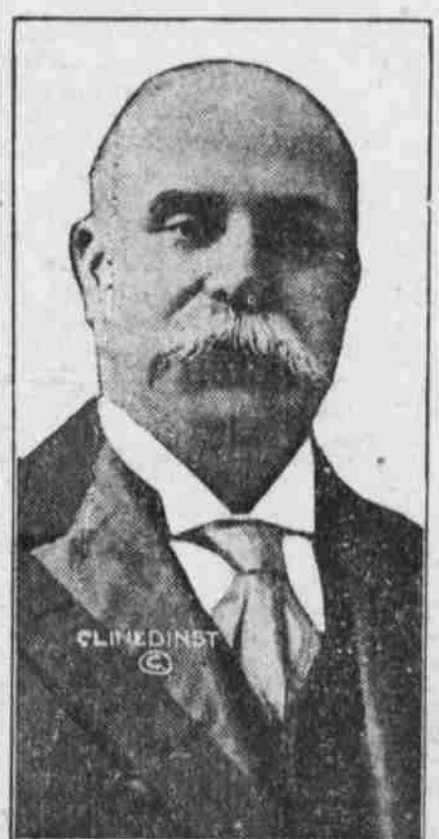
Combination of Whose Members Caused Mexican Revolt.

### TERRAZAS AND CREEL LEAD

Former Began With Small Store, Entered Politics and Accumulated Land Until He Was Worth \$100,000,000—Latter Was a Financier.

New York.—The history of the "royal family" of Chihuahua reveals conditions that made a revolution necessary and at the same time furnished an almost melodramatic history of the rise of a popular idol and his fall in the estimation of his one time worshipers until he is now execrated as a villain.

Chihuahua royalty consists of the Terrazas and Creel families, their connections and descendants. Owing to in-



Enrique C. Creel.

termarriages these are practically the same in both families, but as the legitimate descendants of Luis Terrazas, founder of the dynasty, number 130 royalty is not rare. Chihuahua is the largest and wealthiest of the Mexican states, and the conditions here brought about by the royal family have their counterpart in the rest of the republic.

"Old Don Luis," as he is called, was born in the city of Chihuahua in 1829, became possessed of a fortune estimated at \$100,000,000 and is now in exile, while his son Luis is a prisoner in his own house.

Don Luis held a few acres less than nine millions in this state, or a territory one-third as large as New York state; cattle, horses and sheep in numbers that not even his administrator knew with accuracy, but which can only be numbered satisfactorily by the hundreds of thousands; banks, mines, buildings and what not.

At the death of his father Luis inherited 5,000 pesos and went into business in a small way near the public market place. The fine residence of a son, Juan Terrazas, now occupies the site of the store. With a partner, Amado Porras, he continued in business through the '50s. Much of the success of the store, which at first was of the type called tienda or "cheap John," was because of the help and shrewdness of Porras. Porras when

### MINISTER'S KISS WAS TRAGIC

New York Woman Tells Husband and Conversion Is Prevented—Alleged Act of Pastor in Cause.

New York.—Mrs.

his former partner became great was made administrator of his affairs.

In the late '50s Terrazas went into politics and in it found his real occupation. He is said to have resembled the late Mark Hanna in his appearance and manner. He soon became jefe politico, then governor, and unflattering stories are told of his manipulation of the mint, for Chihuahua then coined money. And he then began getting together the vast estate of which he was possessed.

In 1866 he was the grand seigneur of the district and on March 25 with his levies drove out the sympathizers of Maximilian. This notable victory enabled President Juarez to make Chihuahua his capital and return from what almost amounted to exile on the northern frontier. He was so delighted that he immediately created Terrazas general. Among other notables who served under Terrazas in this battle was Felix Diaz.

This event marks the highest point that Terrazas reached, not in wealth indeed, but in the estimation of his people. Universally popular, fairly worshiped by the people, he was one of the great men of the country, and oddly enough, was a leader of that popular party of which the Constitutional party which has exiled him is the descendant. After this period in 1880 commenced his association with his nephew and son-in-law, Enrique Creel, half Mexican and half gringo, who in the popular estimation is the blacker villain of the two.

Ruben Creel, father of Henry C. Creel, or as he is better known, Enrique C., was American consul here and remained in the country. He and Don Luis married sisters, Pasa Cully and Caroline Cully, daughters of a family prominent in this locality and now extremely wealthy. Creel's marriage took place in 1852. The connection between the two families was further strengthened when the younger Creel married one of Terrazas' daughters.

In 1884, after the stormy term of Gen. Manuel Gomez as president of the republic, Diaz was elected constitutionally for the second time, and immediately the centralization of power and the long period of material development of Mexico began. As under the Diaz regime governors of states were practically autocrats in their country. As long as they did not displease the president it was easy for the Terrazas-Creel combination to take advantage of the growth of the country.

They succeeded each other as governor, and while Terrazas' ambition in politics seems to have stopped there Creel became minister to Washington and it was said, desired to be Diaz's successor. But whatever were his political ambitions, they interfered not at all with the process of building up a great fortune. He is reported to have been far from rich when he married the daughter of Terrazas and what his

## MAY CURE CRIPPLES

Grafting of Nerves May Accomplish This Result.

London Surgeon Shows Brain Cells Can Be Given Two Separate Functions—Makes Experiments on Foreleg of Dog.

London, England.—The Times' reports one result of important nerve grafting experiments recently by Prof. Robert Kennedy of Glasgow, proving conclusively that a brain cell may be taught to perform two separate functions.

Each nerve communicates with a particular set of brain cells which control its activities. It was supposed that these cells were able to perform only the function allotted to them by nature.

Doctor Kennedy made experiments on the foreleg of a dog. He severed all the nerves connecting with the muscles below the joint and then connected all these muscles to the group

times," she said, "but in my home it grew into a tragedy."

The witness broke down as she talked, explaining that the incident caused the failure of an aim which she had long been trying to fulfill—the conversion of her husband. "I

wealth amounts to now is a matter of conjecture merely.

Chihuahua has never been properly surveyed unless the German engineers working for Terrazas surveyed it in its entirety. In fact there are still large areas where it is highly probable that no man with the possible exception of some Indian band has been since the Spanish conquest. This fact, together with the law that there must be definite titles to land, facilitated one means of getting land.

In some cases haciendas were bought and the contiguous lands claimed under the title deed. The possessors of these lands had small chance to prove their claims in court against the accurate surveys of the members of the royal family. Or an even simpler process was to fence in lands and lay claim to them. Here again the able lawyers and actual survey were convincing in court even had the judiciary been uninfluenced, and whatever the facts of the matter were, the people believe so strongly that the courts were not impartial that many of the legal profession have thought it safer to leave the country for the present.

There are also many stories of threats and violence used to remove the possessors from desirable pieces of land, but these are impossible to substantiate satisfactorily at present.

At one time a law, perfectly reasonable on its face, was passed that all titles to land must be registered publicly within a definite time. Land to which the title was not registered became available for public entry. As was to be expected, many of the peon proprietors neglected to do this or never heard of the necessity, and those in authority were in the best position to take advantage of their omissions.

The real downfall of Luis Terrazas and his family came in the latter part of 1913, when the present revolution began to gain strength. Gen. Pancho Villa is the worst foe of royalty in Chihuahua. When the present rebels occupied Chihuahua they seized the Terrazas and their properties and Villa



Luis Terrazas, Jr.

announced that he would restore the land to the peons. Gen. Luis Terrazas fled to El Paso with other prominent citizens of Chihuahua.

Villa seized Luis Terrazas, Jr., and held him prisoner in Chihuahua, demanding \$500,000 ransom. He threatened to kill the son of the old general if the money wasn't paid.

With his estate confiscated, Gen. Luis Terrazas didn't have money enough to meet Villa's demand. Even with the aid of friends he found it impossible to scrape together enough of his former \$100,000,000 to free his son.

He appealed to the United States state department and Secretary Bryan took a hand. He forced Villa to spare Luis Terrazas, Jr., and Bryan's appeal to Carranza got the prisoner his freedom. But "freedom" only means that he can stay in Chihuahua under guard.

Villa has killed many of the Terrazas family agents and relatives. General Terrazas' lawyer was shot to death after he paid \$15,000 for his freedom. Gen. Luis Terrazas, now more than four-score, announced recently that he would start a ranch in Texas and try to regain his lost fortune.

## TO COMMAND SHIPS IN PANAMA CANAL

Capt. Hugh Rodman, U. S. N., will be the real boss of the big sluiceway when it is open for commercial shipping in July, and will have entire charge of all the details of putting ships through.

Each vessel entering the canal will be assigned a canal pilot, who take the ship to an anchorage, which she may not move without mission of Captain Rodman or the port captains, conveyed to the pilot.

As soon as a ship moves toward the canal its wireless and all arrangements will be under the control of the canal authority. The engines of a ship will be by the canal officials by means of steel chain and sealing device. Lock will be under the constant watch of a canal guard and an engineer the ship, until after leaving the lock when its removal will be ordered by the canal pilot aboard.

The pilots have been selected by Captain Rodman, and for three months he has been instructing and training them.

Since his graduation, in 1886, Captain Rodman spent all but six years of that time at sea. He has been around the world five times and has commanded ships in nearly every big port in the world.

### SENATOR SHIELDS' "NERVOUS GOATS"

Senator John K. Shields of Tennessee possesses some specimens of a breed of goats that are the most unique in the animal world. Shields has a 3,000-acre ranch in Granger county, a beautiful home on it and he devotes the place largely to Shetland ponies and Angora goats.

The Angoras he raises for their hair, and this proves a profitable investment, as they can live on wild land on which a horse would starve. The meat, too, is fine, very much like lamb. But the thing on which he prides himself most is that he owns several of what is known as "nervous goats."

This is a breed said by the agricultural department to be peculiar to Tennessee and unknown in any other place. These goats are remarkable for the fact that if any one should get near them and fire off a pistol or even crack a whip sharply the goats instantly fall to the ground, lie on their backs and remain there stiffly with their feet in the air for some time. On this account they are "nervous goats."

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# OUT-OF-ORDINARY PEOPLE

## WILL PROBE SOCIAL UNREST



The only woman representative on the federal industrial relations commission, which is soon to begin the most complete and thorough probe ever undertaken into existing social unrest, with the view of making recommendations for constructive legislation, is Mrs. J. Borden Harriman of New York, who has for years been engaged in many public and useful activities in the metropolis.

Congress has appropriated \$100,000 for the first year's work of the inquiry, recommending at the same time that the commission should lay out a program on a three years' basis and could count on a fund for expenses of \$500,000. The chairman of the commission is Frank P. Walsh of Kansas, one of the best equipped men in the country for such work. There are seven other male members of the commission, representing both labor and capital.

Mrs. Harriman has been engaged in what has been termed "uplift" work among the toilers of the metropolis and is at present in Washington, where her influence is being exerted to prevent certain threatened strikes. Before she became a member of the commission she had organized a company to provide ice cream sodas for poor working girls at minimum price, and earlier than that she had converted her country place into a sanitarium for the benefit of weary millionaires.

It is as chairman of the "committee for welfare work of industrial employees" of the women's department of the National Civic federation that Mrs. Harriman has done her greatest service. She has won the respect of trade union leaders and the interest and co-operation of the non-union cotton manufacturers of the South in the improvement of plant and community conditions. She is credited with having brought about the White House conference last July which led to the amendment of the Erdman act and to the arbitration of the demands of the conductors and trainmen.

## HAS NO TIME FOR HOBBIES

"I fear I must be very trite," remarked Mrs. Dunne, wife of the governor of Illinois, during her recent visit to Washington, "and say home, my husband and children are all my fads and accomplishments, and certainly the whole of my mission in life. I believe even the most indefatigable of modern women would find scant leisure for hobbies in the care of such a household as is mine. Thirteen children have come to bless our home and of these all lived to be old enough for us to possess a keen sense of loss in their passing away. There are ten now with us, although the oldest boy is married and has set his own roof-tree. He is Edward F. Jr., and there is a chubby little son, Edward F. III, who is, as may be imagined, quite the idol of the family. I do not wish to repeat truisms and obvious facts, but I number myself among those who find the crown of womanhood in rearing large families and governing a home to the satisfaction of all. In these days of complicated interests and of luxurious living, such work can be easily exalted into a vocation. I have never found myself lacking interest in passing affairs through the care of my home and family and I should not rate these cares as either benumbing intellectually or drudgery in the physical sense. To use that favorite phrase, I believe I have had time to grow soul and mind since my marriage."

"Take the parents of a large family such as my husband and I boast and look at the diverse interests brought right into the home circle. Our table is a sort of forum where all topics are discussed and where we that are busy get a bird's-eye view of the passing world. I never have to read news of the sports, for I get every shade of opinion from my sons and every variety of comment on persons and things connected with sports from them. My daughters are active in many ways and bring the outside ozone home. Books, the plays, fashions, charities, church news all come to the home table through my daughters, and there is scarcely a topic in which we do not glean knowledge through these many points of contact with the outer world."



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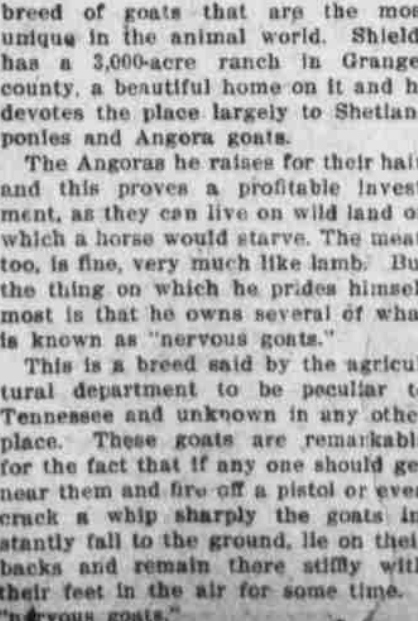
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